We claim:

1. In a process for preparing mevinolin by fermentation of a biomass in a fermentation liquor, which includes dissolving mevinolin from the biomass into the fermentation liquor, and separating the biomass from the fermentation liquor to obtain a separated fermentation liquor, separating the mevinolin from the separated fermentation liquor, and recovering the end product, **the improvement which comprises** carrying out the dissolving at a pH between about 7.5 and about 10, and the separating of the mevinolin is carried out at a pH between about 4.5 and about 1.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein the dissolving is carried out at a pH between about 8 and about 9.

3. The process of claim 1, wherein the separating of the mevinolin is carried out at a pH between about 2.2 and about 2.

4. The process of claim 2, wherein the separating of the mevinolin is carried out at a pH between about 2.2 and about 2.

5. The process of claim 1, wherein the dissolving is carried out in the presence of at least about 0.1 % wt. based on the volume of the fermentation liquor of at least one additive of a C_{1-4} aliphatic alcohol, a C_{2-5} glycol, a C_{1-3} secondary or tertiary amine, a C_{1-5} alkyl acetate, dimethylformamide, polyethylene glycol, and polypropylene glycol.

6. The process of claim 5, wherein said additive is ethanol, or ethylene glycol.

7. The process of claim 5, wherein the additive is diethylamine, triethylamine, dimethylformamide, methanol, isopropanol, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, isobutyl acetate, and polyethylene glycol.

8. The process of claim 1, further comprising adding an earth alkali metal salt or an earth metal salt, or a transition metal salt to the separated fermentation liquor.